

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 19, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 23, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2185

Introduced by Assembly Member Eggman
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Alejo)
(Principal coauthor: Senator Wolk)

February 20, 2014

An act to add Section 29001.5 to the Food and Agricultural 1745.2
to the Fish and Game Code, relating to bees.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2185, as amended, Eggman. Bees: ~~foraging:~~ *apiculture:*
state-owned lands.

Existing law prohibits a person from locating or maintaining an apiary on any public land without the expressed oral or written approval of the entity that owns, leases, controls, or occupies the land, as specified.

This bill would ~~declare it a policy of the state that require~~ the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Transportation ~~shall encourage to consider permitting~~ apiculture on the lands that those departments respectively manage: *department-managed wildlife areas*. The bill would ~~require those departments, if require the department, when developing or amending its land-use plans or with respect to lands that are idle or through which a right-of-way has been granted, to take certain actions~~ *management plans, to make certain determinations* relating to the use of the lands *department-managed wildlife areas* for apiculture. The bill would ~~require the Secretary of Food and Agriculture, to the extent possible, to assist in these efforts:~~ *authorize the department*

to consult with specified entities for permitting apiculture on department-managed wildlife areas consistent with the respective management goals and objectives for those areas, and would provide for the deposit of use or permit fees for apiculture on department-managed wildlife areas.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.

State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 1745.2 is added to the Fish and Game
2 Code, to read:
3 1745.2. (a) The department shall do both of the following:
4 (1) Consider permitting apiculture on department-managed
5 wildlife areas, where deemed appropriate by the department.
6 (2) Determine, when developing or amending its land
7 management plans, the following:
8 (A) If the department-managed wildlife areas, or any portion
9 of the those areas, are suitable for apiculture and whether
10 apiculture is consistent with the management goals and objectives
11 for those areas on a temporary, seasonal, or long-term basis.
12 (B) If the administration of apiculture on department-managed
13 wildlife areas, where deemed appropriate by the department, is
14 meeting the management goals and objectives for those areas.
15 (C) The appropriate use or permit fee to be assessed for
16 conducting apiculture on department-managed wildlife areas.
17 (b) The department, in implementing this section, may consult
18 with apiculture experts, including, but not limited to, the
19 Department of Food and Agriculture, the University of California,
20 other academic or professional experts, and interested
21 stakeholders, for permitting apiculture on department-managed
22 wildlife areas consistent with the respective management goals
23 and objectives for those areas.
24 (c) Moneys collected for conducting apiculture on
25 department-managed wildlife areas pursuant to subparagraph (C)
26 of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) shall be deposited by the
27 department into the Wildlife Restoration Fund and, upon
28 appropriation by the Legislature, be used to support the
29 management, maintenance, restoration, and operation of
30 department-managed wildlife areas.

1 ~~SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the~~
2 ~~following:~~

3 ~~(a) The honeybee industry is under tremendous pressures due~~
4 ~~to multiple challenges, including, but not limited to, parasitic mites,~~
5 ~~poor nutrition, lack of diverse forage, changing environments due~~
6 ~~to long distance hauls, and native and manmade toxins.~~

7 ~~(b) A viable and productive honeybee industry is dependent on~~
8 ~~access to private and public lands to secure nectar and pollen~~
9 ~~resources for nutritional foraging opportunities.~~

10 ~~(c) There is a need for a streamlined and efficient administrative~~
11 ~~method to provide access to public lands for California beekeepers~~
12 ~~to ensure that they have adequate foraging grounds for their bees.~~

13 ~~(d) The Legislature recognizes the importance of the honeybee~~
14 ~~industry in helping to ensure food security, boost regional jobs,~~
15 ~~and support the state's multibillion dollar agricultural industry.~~
16 ~~Accordingly, the Legislature seeks to encourage and support bee~~
17 ~~foraging on public lands.~~

18 ~~SEC. 2. Section 29001.5 is added to the Food and Agricultural~~
19 ~~Code, to read:~~

20 ~~29001.5. (a) It is the policy of the state that the Department~~
21 ~~of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Transportation shall~~
22 ~~encourage apiculture on the lands that those departments~~
23 ~~respectively manage. The Department of Fish and Wildlife and~~
24 ~~the Department of Transportation, if developing or amending land~~
25 ~~use plans or with respect to lands that are idle or through which a~~
26 ~~right-of-way has been granted, shall do all of the following:~~

27 ~~(1) Maximize the coexistence and minimize the conflict between~~
28 ~~apiculture and other public land uses, values, and public safety.~~

29 ~~(2) Establish an efficient, effective, and uniform system for the~~
30 ~~management and administration of apiculture on public lands.~~

31 ~~(3) Ensure that the state receives an appropriate financial return~~
32 ~~from the use of a public resource.~~

33 ~~(b) The secretary shall assist, to the extent possible, in the efforts~~
34 ~~of these departments to accomplish apiculture access on their~~
35 ~~respective state-owned lands.~~